



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Janet Wilwerding, Development & Communications Specialist, City of Pleasant Hill, 515-309-9406
jwilwerding@pleasanthilliowa.org

Million Women Mentors-Iowa (MWM-IA) adds Mayor's Challenge to support STEM mentoring efforts across the state

MWM-IA is committed to providing 5,000 mentors for girls and young women to pursue an education and career in STEM (science, technology, engineering or math).

February 11, 2016 –Million Women Mentors-Iowa (MWM-IA) has announced Sara Kurovski, Mayor of Pleasant Hill, will join the executive council to lead the MWM-IA Mayor's Challenge for STEM mentoring. The Mayor's Challenge will be an outreach and resource-sharing program for the business community across the state for mentoring opportunities for girls and women in STEM jobs, educational opportunities and leadership roles.

Lead by Iowa's Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds, MWM-IA supports STEM programs throughout the state with a goal of providing mentors in all 99 counties by 2018. Kurovski's focus will be to encourage mayors across Iowa to join MWM-IA and connect mentors within their communities to help us reach our goal. "Businesses in Iowa offer careers in STEM related fields. It's our goal as mentors to communicate the skills needed to girls and women to pursue these career opportunities and become future business leaders within our communities," Kurovski said.

"We're excited to welcome Sara to the team to lead the Mayor's Challenge and help us provide mentors for girls and women in communities across the state who have an interest in STEM," said Jana Rieker, co-chair of MWM-IA and PR director for Trilix.

STEMconnector® studies show that over the next decade, STEM-related careers are projected to increase by 16.5 percent, and while women make up 48 percent of our workforce, only 24 percent are in STEM related fields. Filling those jobs will become a real workforce issue if we don't encourage more women to pursue careers in these fields.

Join [Million Women Mentors](#) for STEM in Iowa. It is one of the most rewarding things you will ever do. If you are already a mentor, thank you. We want you to BE COUNTED in our

pursuit to providing 5,000 mentors for girls and women in STEM by 2018. Register at mwmia.org and help make Iowa's future workforce stronger than ever and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) to see STEM mentoring opportunities in your area.

Media Contacts:

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